

The Situation in Missouri.

The "Party" Organs Squirm and Twist To Shift Responsibility.

Contentions and Arguments of the Three Parties that Will Struggle for Supremacy in Missouri this Fall.

FRIENDS OF THE LOBBY.
From the St. Louis Republic.
No greater encouragement could be given to the so-called lobby in Jefferson City than is to be found in the attitude of the Republican newspapers toward the fight which is being made against Senators Farris and Orchard. The chief arguments now being used by both of these friends of the lobby are drawn from Republican sources.

As long as such men as Farris and Orchard can find excuses for their behavior they will attempt a defense along the lines marked out for them by these Republican organs. They will say, as do these Republican allies, that they are neither better nor worse than other men whom they could name.

All of which is beside the question. Farris should not have been renominated and probably would not have been if the Democrats of the Twenty-fourth district had been permitted to express their choice at a general primary.

Senator Orchard, of the Twenty-second district, will be up for renomination in the Democratic convention which will be held in Houston a week from next Saturday. He should be defeated in every attempt which he may make to gain control of that body. The methods which he has used in splitting county conventions is evidence of the extremes to which he will go to secure his ends.

For the sake of better legislative methods he should be kept at home. The Republican organs which wish him well will regret his failure to get an endorsement. It will mean that the minority in the state senate will have one less assistant in passing and defeating measures in which the lobby is interested.

The Republican newspapers which are raising such a hue and cry over the efforts of Democrats who are trying to defeat Farris and Orchard expose their purpose. The unanimity with which the Republican senators have voted as the lobby directed prevents that party from going before the people as champion of those opposed to this influence. Until the leaders repudiate the record made by the minority in Jefferson City the only hope for bettered conditions is in the Democratic party.

Senators Farris and Orchard are two of the most conspicuous allies of the Republican minority in serving the lobby. The betterment among the Democrats are opposed to their election. The efforts of Republican newspapers to belittle this movement will not help the cause of the two senators. The people have grown tired of their tactics.

Good citizens throughout Missouri are thoroughly in sympathy with the Republic's movement to prevent the election of lobby tools to the state legislature. They know that the protest voiced against the movement is a protest of lobbyists and of those who profit from the lobby. Whenever and wherever they have the opportunity, they will vote for a worthy legislative candidate as against a candidate who stands for the lobby and corrupt legislation. These good citizens are in the vast majority in the state of Missouri. They will be heard from at the polls in a manner to convince even the lobbyists that honest service to the people is the kind of service insisted upon by the people.

THE LOBBY ADMITTED.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.
A lobby is a self-created aggregation of selfish schemers that gathers around legislatures to influence their action for private profit. For years a lobby has been supreme in making and unmaking the laws of Missouri. It steers the whole course of proceedings in committee rooms and can do anything it wishes on the floor of the general assembly by giving a secret signal through the lobby leaders in the senate and the house. Certain members of both branches are recognized as the representatives of the lobby and they always have a working combine at their backs. There are honest men in the legislature, but they are fenced off by the all-powerful lobby and permitted to twiddle their thumbs throughout a session. They are an absolute nullity. The lobby laughs at them, though it holds that it could buy them if needed, the lobby theory being that every man has his price. A majority in the legislature is enough for the bribers that haunt the halls of legislation when some measure in which they are financially interested is under consideration. For more than a dozen years legislation in this state has been a record of what the lobby wanted or did not want.

Some of the Democratic papers in Missouri admit these facts, but when it comes to discussing a remedy they are only anxious to offer a shadow instead of something substantial. A denial of the operations of the lobby would be too brazen a falsehood, so these crafty organs pretend to denounce the system while proposing some form of opposition that is intended to be utterly ineffective. The Republic's deceptive cure is to defeat the reelection of two Democratic state senators known to be active lobbyists. But this would still leave the Republic's party with a two-thirds majority in the state senate. The defeat of Senators Farris and Orchard, which is the sum total of the Republic's great lobby reform, is as paltry a piece of humbug as ever was offered an intelligent public. Farris, notorious lobbyist, has been renominated against the Republic's advice. Morton, notorious lobbyist, has also been renominated, but Morton is a partner of Stone and the Republic is diplomatically silent about him. Its war upon two lobbyists only is intended to minimize public feeling and to preserve the lobby in full strength, though it is willing to throw overboard a couple of scapegoats.

The merited defeat of Farris and Orchard at the polls would be only a drop in the bucket. It would not prevent the chairman of the Democratic state committee from accepting another \$6,000 from the representative of the transit company, or other corporations wanting legislative favors; it would not stay Sam Cook from seeking another interview with the governor to plead for the signing of a pool-selling bill; because it meant "a good job" for Cook; it would not stop Seibert or Cook from going to members of the legislature to ask their votes in behalf of corporations contributing to Democratic campaign funds; it would not end the assessment of police forces in large cities for large sums of money to be distributed by the lobby; it would be no bar against further activities from the slick baking powder trust demagogue who is as fond of eggs as the roughest lobbyist in the state, but hides the shells. The only way to destroy the lobby is to smash the ring, reeking with rottenness, that the lobby is driving in harness.

REMEDY—GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP.

From the St. Louis Globe-Democrat.
According to Poor's Manual, the standard authority upon such questions, the total railroad mileage of the country in 1900, including second tracks, sidings, etc., was 257,853 miles. During the same period the total outstanding issues of stock (including water), bonded and other debt, amounted to the enormous sum of \$12,428,990,022. The total earnings and receipts from all sources amounted to \$1,569,468,312. Of this sum there is reported as having been paid for operating expenses \$1,017,447,852. It would be interesting, indeed, to know how much of this billion and some odd millions of dollars paid out for operating expenses, was used to maintain corrupt lobbies, bribe legislatures and public officials. Also how much was unlawfully paid out in secret rebates to trusts and monopolies to enable them to stamp out and crush honest competition. However, after all expenses, whether lawful or unlawful, had been paid, after the payment of all the employees, from the high-salaried presidents to the dollar-a-day section hands, and after the payments for repairs, betterments, legal expenses, taxes, etc., there still remained for the payment of interest and dividends the sum of \$551,020,460.

The railroads of the country draw each year, in profits, from the American people a sum almost equal to the national debt.

There is nothing used or consumed by the human race, unless it be the garden produce from the back yard, that does not pay tribute to the railroad. The burden laid upon the people by the trust manipulation of the transportation utilities of this country is far greater than any tax that was ever conceived under the most radical Republican theory of high tariff protection. The emperors of ancient Rome, who looted empires, never dreamed of booty half so rich, and England, in all the pride and glory of her foreign commerce, cannot approximate it.

The remedy is plain. Instead of taxing the people to create corruption funds and to pay five or six percent upon billions of watered stock and fictitious bond issues, let the people own the common carriers. Let us purchase them at a fair valuation, issuing in payment therefor non-taxable, low-rate government bonds; operate them upon a basis that will pay for honest operation, pay the interest upon the bonds issued for their purchase, and create a sinking fund to redeem the bonds as they mature.

Under this plan there would be no slush funds for corrupt purposes, no secret giving of unlawful rebates; every citizen, being equal in the eyes of the law, would receive impartial treatment in the shipment of freight; honest competition and business enterprise would be stimulated; employment of labor become more stable and secure, strikes unknown, and the baneful influence of stock speculation minimized, if not entirely destroyed.

Political Regeneration.

From the St. Louis World.
How is it to be accomplished? We will tell you, and if the "devoutly to be wished for consummation" does not materialize it will not be the fault of the St. Louis World.

To begin with, we will assume that the people themselves know best what they want.

Are new laws needed? Who is better prepared to say what those laws should be? What is wanted in the shape of municipal legislation? The people, the whole people, can best answer that question.

Therefore, the initiative. Let it be repeated, the initiative.

Let the people make the suggestions. Let them declare their will. In a word, let them declare their sovereignty.

But human nature is weak, uncertain, full of frailty that came with the world through "Adam's fall," and it is just possible that the representatives of the people may be inclined to ignore the people's suggestions or to inadequately carry out their sovereign wishes.

The people might suggest one law and the representatives of the city legislature might from one or many causes produce quite a different law.

And then what?

The referendum.

Let it be said again, the referendum. The people have made the suggestion and the representatives of the people have legislated something which is supposed to be in accordance with the suggestion.

But is it?

Let the referendum decide. Let the new law go back to the people and let them say whether it is the law they wanted. The law that embodies the idea set forth in their initiative suggestion.

But, then, laws of themselves amount to nothing. Laws are not worth the paper they are printed on unless they are executed.

And how do we know they will be executed? Human nature it will be remembered is weak, and the laws may remain inoperative.

And what then?

The imperative mandate. And what on earth is the imperative mandate? It is the modern device for getting the laws carried into effect.

In plain English, the imperative mandate means the public official, the servant of the people, who, for any cause, fails to execute the laws in its entirety, that has been commanded by the people and passed by their representatives, shall be summarily decapitated and another put in his place who will obey the popular will.

By these three means, then, we may politically regenerate St. Louis. The initiative, the referendum and the imperative mandate will do the business and nothing else will.

With present methods you may expect no chance; but the method outlined here will be our political salvation.

One word more is all that is necessary. The people need to be aroused and awakened. Now they are asleep. Wake them up, so that they shall be clothed and in their right mind then give them:

The Initiative.
The Referendum.
The Imperative Mandate.
And all will be well.

Says Seibert is a Fraud.

Rev. W. M. Pinson, member of the Anti-Saloon League, lectured here Sunday evening. When asked by the editor what was the object of the League, he replied: "The enforcement of the law regulating saloons."

It seems a little strange that private citizens must organize themselves into an organization or league to bring about the enforcement of the law when we have men everywhere whose sworn duty it is to enforce the law.

Rev. Pinson described conditions in St. Louis and Kansas City as awful. He said: "I was in Hodnett's place, on Nineteenth and Olive, one night last week and saw no less than two hundred and fifty boys and girls—CHILDREN—drunk." Then he related many other shameful scenes that cannot go into print.

"Father Coffey is an active worker in your organization, isn't he?" asked the editor.

"Yes—and he is a fighter, too. Father Coffey's parish is in the midst of the Red Light district and he is doing his best to stamp out the evil. We have preferred charges against Hodnett and I am going to St. Louis now to be present at the prosecution."

"What stand does Excise Commissioner Seibert take in the matter?"

"Seibert is a fraud—and so is Chief of Police Kiely. Father Coffey charged that these men pretended to be suppressing vice with one hand while accepting bribes from the law-break-

ers with the other. This was published in the newspapers and Seibert and Kiely threatened Father Coffey with a \$20,000 suit for defamation of character. Father Coffey told them to 'crack their whip' and he would prove his accusation to be true, and they let the matter drop."

Asked if the abolishment of all tax on liquor would not go a long way toward remedying the evil, Rev. Pinson replied: "Yes; many of our workers hold to that idea, but this would have to be brought about by legislation, and the whiskey trust and the liquor interests have too much money to permit the abolishment of the liquor tax. To abolish the tax would destroy the trust, as well as the palatial saloon in politics."

Things to Sell.

FOR SALE—A good farm of 192 acres—100 acres in cultivation. Good 2-story frame dwelling, granary, barn, plenty of good water and all modern conveniences. Within 30 minutes' drive of either Oran, New Hamburg or Benton. For further information apply at the Kicker office.

FOR SALE—Late seed Potatoes. Good variety; \$1.00 per bushel until sold out. Ed Johnson will attend to customers in my absence.

HENRY F. DUTTENBERG.
21st Commerce, Mo.
St. Louis, Mo.
St. Louis, Mo.
St. Louis, Mo.

LOTS OF EXCITEMENT.

All Over a Little Blaze in a Big Flat Building.

The woman who had a fire in her flat building met a friend on the car and began to tell her all about it. "That was a simply awful experience," she began. "The fire wasn't in our end of the building, but of course we couldn't know that at the time. The alarm came at six o'clock Sunday morning. Henry grabbed a few clothes and so did I and we made a hasty toilet. He put on his dress suit trousers that he had worn the night before to a dance, a house coat and a black satin muffler. I found his shoes on the sidewalk hours afterward, but he couldn't tell how they got there. I wish you had seen those dress trousers after the fire was over!"

"I found myself wearing an old kimono, my hair silk petticoat and some worsted bed slippers. I took an empty pillow case, filled it with valuables and started for a neighbor's. When I got to the front door I met a fireman."

"Are we on fire?" I screamed, excitedly, meaning our flat, of course.

"Well, if you are, I guess you'll find it out," the brute replied, dragging the hose on upstairs.

"Just then a woman came down from an upper flat carrying a bird cage. That reminded me of my beloved Angela. Victoria, and I forgot the pillowcase and hurried back to find her."

"Where is she?" I asked, as I rushed through the flat, frantic about my pet.

"Where's who?" growled Henry, who was trying to find the insurance policies.

"The cat," I sobbed.

"Locked up in the bathroom," he answered.

"Why, Henry?" I cried, "do you want Victoria to be roasted alive?"

"Don't you let her out," he said, savagely. "The infernal beast will get under people's feet; she's got no sense!"

"By this time I was unlocking the bathroom door. Victoria was meowing piteously, scared by the excitement. I seized her and rushed out. Just outside the front door I met Mrs. Dutton carrying her baby."

"Will you hold my cat a minute?" I asked, trying to put Victoria into her arms.

"If I live to be 100 years old I'll never forget the look that woman gave me."

"I've got my child to save, madam," she snapped. "I think you'll have to look out for your own cat."

"Fancy any one being so spiteful at such a time! I put my poor Victoria down on the front steps and I never saw her again for three days. You may know how crazy I must have been at that moment to have expected a cat to stay there with firemen dragging in hose and people carrying out their things and all that excitement."

"How did you find her afterward?" asked the sympathetic friend.

"Advised for her and paid five dollars reward to the boy who brought her home," answered Victoria's mistress.

"And the pillow case full of valuables—did you find that?"

"Yes, we found it after hours of searching down behind the couch in the library. I must have put it there, though goodness only knows why. And what do you suppose I had put into it? First my white lace waist; then on top of that the salad fork, which I pushed clear through the lace; next the hotwater bag, and last, on top of all, a cut-glass bowl—one of my wedding presents."—Springfield Union.

ROUND-ABOUT.

Going down the hill near the depot Tuesday afternoon their mule became unmanageable and Mrs. Ab. Nations and Mrs. Richard Taylor, of the Sandywoods, were thrown from the buggy and considerably shaken up. The cause was a Sandywoods harness without breeching. Both ladies had babies in their arms.

Nor satisfied with grinding the farmer in every other way, the trust promoters are now shutting off his water supply and subjecting him to severe drought. The water so necessary to growing crops is all tied up in "typical stock."

Circuit court, Probate court and the Democratic convention all to begin operations in Benton next Monday, ought to bring out quite a few people.

J. N. Hood, who writes the heavy editorials for the Benton Record, is off on a short vacation visiting old friends at the Cape and De Soto.

Miss Sherman McPheters, daughter of County Clerk McPheters, graduated in education at Cairo, Ill., last week.

Emil Seck is in St. Louis for the purpose of having an operation performed on his eyes.

The Commerce church choir furnished our people some splendid singing Sunday.

Peter Akley and wife and Mrs. C. L. Proffitt returned Monday from a trip to Essex.

J. P. Rainey, of Richwoods, visited his sick mother at Commerce the first of the week.

James Walker is preparing to erect a cottage just north of the Kicker office.

Mr. and Mrs. D. H. Leedy spent Sunday with relatives at the Cape.

Julius C. A. Leedy and daughter, Canille, visited Cairo Monday.

Dr. Fredling is over in Tennessee on a short vacation.

A Texas cyclone killed 123 persons last week.

From Grayboro.

Mr. Hunze, of Cape Girardeau, was here Monday on business. He and Mr. Carroll are running a boat between the Cape and Tibbs. He informs us that he will run an excursion every two weeks to Grayboro. The little boat is called "Osgood" and makes two trips daily.

C. H. Hillemann is attending court at New Madrid this week, concerning a tract of land which the Court on that day desires to buy, but on which Mr. H. has a 99 years lease.

It looks like the St. Louis Osage is having very bad luck. One day she gets hung up on the rocks, the next day she's late, and so on.

The St. Osage gave an excursion from the Cape to Tibbs Sunday and quite a number of the excursionists stopped off here.

Axe Kjer is closed up with a tenail fence all around—except his front door, which is always open.

Hillemann & Carpenter have let the contract for an ice house—and we will have ice this summer.

Our new gardener, Mr. Robinson, seems to be well liked, and we hope to keep him.

Albert H. Schutte attended the G. A. R. encampment at Cape Girardeau last week.

Dr. Cannon returned from a trip to Jackson, Marble Hill and St. Louis Tuesday.

Our people are wondering when the new road will be opened up.

It is rumored that Gray Bros. will put in a stock of dry goods.

Mrs. Snider closed a successful term of school last Friday.

Albert Schutte is now clerk on the transfer board.

From Vanduser.

There will be an ice cream and strawberry supper at Layton's hall Saturday evening for the benefit of the M. E. church.

Doc Potter, Lou Paul and Misses Mattie Spann and Mollie Matthews "took in" Richwoods last Sunday.

Miss Grace Wilson, of Buzz Ridge, was the guest of Misses Little and Clara Armstrong Sunday.

Mrs. Ella Sanders, of Blodgett, visited her brother, M. A. Jones, the latter part of last week.

Miss Lulu Potter, of Richwoods, was the guest of Mrs. Lou Jones last week.

Thomas Adams, of Benton, was in Vanduser Monday and Tuesday.

Miss Zora Marshall, of Crowder, visited friends here last Friday.

Miss Clara Armstrong has recovered from a week's illness.

Miss Gertrude Vanduser is quite ill this week.

Vanduser has a string band to be proud of.

From New Hamburg.

If there is anything we need more than a breath of cool air it is rain. Up to date the wheat crop looks fairly well, but unless a good rain falls soon the farmers fear that the yield will be light.

Sunday will be a happy day for the parents of the children—as well as for the children—who will take their first communion at the church. There are seventeen girls and ten boys to undertake, for the first time, of the Holy Sacrament during nine o'clock high mass.

It is just too hot for anything to happen—or if it does happen it is too hot to talk about it, hence the scarcity of news.

George Gerst and John Stike spent Wednesday afternoon at Oran.

Farmers, you can get hardware and machine supplies at Baudouin's, Kelso.

Father Moenig took a drive to Oran Wednesday evening.

From Oran.

Mrs. Mollie Lewis, of Clarksville, Mo., a state primary superintendent of the later-educational Sunday school convention, visited our town and held quite an interesting teachers' conference Monday afternoon and evening. She holds a state diploma and comes highly recommended as an instructor of teachers. She goes from here to Blodgett and Charleston and thence to Denver, Colo., to the national convention.

We are very glad to welcome some excellent families to Oran. The main trouble is the scarcity of houses for rent. Some are boarding some are renting parts of houses until they can find suitable accommodations. Some of our moneyed men would make a good investment by building several residences.

Miss Georgia Clemson went to Commerce last Friday, and while waiting at Morley for the Commerce train had the misfortune to lose her pocket book containing about \$12, a key and several calling cards. Anyone finding some will please leave it with E. E. Leslie and receive reward.

Children's day will be observed at the Bryans school Sunday, May 25, with songs, recitations and a banner contest. Preaching in the forenoon and a basket dinner on the grounds. Everybody invited to come and bring a well filled basket.

Rex Cunningham has gone to Blodgett again. We are sorry to lose him as he is an intelligent, christian gentleman. We wish him success and hope he will soon return and take his place among us.

The ladies of the M. E. church gave a lawn social at the residence of M. J. McGord on Tuesday evening. It was largely attended and all present report a good time.

Some very fine horses are being trained on the race track here. The Oran fair this fall promises to equal anything ever held in the Southeast.

J. W. Clemson visited Kelso last Saturday and returned Sunday accompanied by Mrs. Clemson, who had been visiting at Kelso and Cape.

Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Noble, of Farmington, have come to make their home in our midst and will occupy part of Mrs. Massey's residence.

Rain seems to be avoiding us, but is falling nearly everywhere else. We have to be content with barely sufficient to cool the air.

A number of children will make their first communion at the Catholic church Sunday and a large attendance is expected.

Mr. and Mrs. H. Miller, of Hickory Grove, visited Mr. and Mrs. Finley Saturday and Sunday.

L. P. Briskell, of Alton, Tenn., has accepted a position as book-keeper with Cash Matthews.

Miss Vernon Harrison and brother, of Blodgett, are visiting Mrs. Robt. Query this week.

Mrs. Joe Moore, of Commerce, is visiting her sister, Mrs. Wesscott.

John Thomas, of Benton, has a position with Stubbfield Bros.

Miss Alice Jones visited Oran a few days the past week.

From Kelso.

The ball at the hall Tuesday night was quite a pleasant affair. Several couples from the Cape attended.

All kinds of hardware—a complete line at Baudouin's, Kelso. Machine supplies a specialty.

Fifteen boys and fifteen girls will make their first communion at the Catholic church here Sunday.

Leo Ditch took a bicycle ride to the Cape Saturday. A good way to "beat" the toll gate.

Chas. Drury, of Rays Landing, was here the first of the week visiting friends and relatives.

Mr. and Mrs. Phil Haffer came up to enjoy the athletic performance on Tuesday evening.

St. Baudouin's hall has all kinds of stock peas for sale—cheap.

Charles and Adam Heisserer and John Schuegel are in St. Louis buying milk.

Farmers are very busy and the town is quiet during the day.

May O'Herron, of Bloomfield, was here visiting friends last week.

A child of Ludon Borton is reported quite sick with pneumonia.

Ed. Hobbs, of Manning, put in an appearance at Kelso Monday.

Rev. Klein and Jno Willman visited the Cape Monday.

Herman Grossman spent Sunday at New Hamburg.

A welcome shower visited this locality Sunday.

From Morley.

Joe McDole, conductor on the St. L. & G. Ry and train, got his right hand mangled Saturday while making a coupling. Doc Smith, who took Conductor McDole's place on the said train, had his hand mangled in like manner Tuesday.

FOR SALE—387 acres; 140 acres in cultivation at Bluffs school house; 60 acres in cultivation on Little River. One-third cash; balance on long time. W. B. Batts, 10.

Dr. Tomlinson, of C. D. Harris, R. L. Harrison and E. Daugherty went down on Caney lake Tuesday.

Mrs. E. Daugherty returned from Bell City Saturday, at which place she was visiting friends.

Mrs. Birdie Pordue, of Poplar Bluff, visited her sister, Mrs. C. K. Hunter, the past week.

Miss Hettie Harris, of Sikeston, is attending the training school this week.

Dr. Tomlinson spent I day at Charleston with the drums.

F. Bryans beer and wine will be finished this week.

Wm. Githens and J. M. Oran, were